THE HINDOO PATRIOT

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THE WEEK.

Monday, 6th October.

LADY LANSDOWNE has delayed her departure from England, and will now join the Viceroy at Delhi on the 18th November.

HER Excellency Lady Lansdowne was lately the honored guest of Her Majesty the Queen-Empress at Balmoral. A London correspondent observes :—"No doubt, Lady Lansdowne would have a great deal to tell the Queen Empress, especially about the progress of the Lady Dufferin Fund, respecting which, as is well known, the Sovereign likes to be kept fully informed."

WE are glad to observe that the question of compensation for lands taken up in Central India for the Midland Railway, has at last been set at rest by the Government of India, in the Foreign Department. A memorandum issued by the Foreign Office states that in consequence of the alleged grievances of the States of Orchha, Datia, and Samtha, in respect of lands taken up for the Indian Midland Railway, an enquiry has been made on the subject. The misunderstanding which has arisen appears to have been caused by a conflict of orders from the Foreign and Public Works Departments and was increased by the failure of the local officials to notice the contradictory orders received The Governor-General in Council has ordered the circumstances to be explained to the several Maharajas, and at the same time it is to be intimated to them that the Government of India are in the habit of granting free land to any Company which constructs a railway, and in asking Native States to do likewise they demanded no extraordinary sacrifice. At the same time the Durbars having been undoubtedly led by Government officials to expect compensation for the lands surrendered, if the Maharajas, after having been made fully aware of the facts, now press their claim for compensations, they will receive such upon an equitable scale.

GENERAL Boulanger is incensed at the revelations made by the Duchess d'Uzes to her interviewer. He implies that her motive in granting pecuniary assistance was not to promote monarchical principles or the interests of the Orleans Princes, but was the outcome of love for himself. He admits he was deceived by everyone except M. Rochefort, and declares he was obliged either to accept exile or precipitate civil war.

THE Australian employers in conference have affirmed the principle of freedom of contract and insisted that they must resist boycotting or coercing free men by united action. They call upon all employers to combine to these ends. They also agreed to the principle of freedom of contract between the employer and employed, and insisted on a general recognition of the unions. They declared that coercion was contrary to union principles.

UNTIL within a few years a singular custom has obtained in Switzerland. When husband and wife expressed a desire for a divorce, they were required to enter a room and live therein together for a fortnight, during which time they were neither to see nor to converse with any body else; their food was passed to them through a narrow opening in the wall, and all communication with the outside world was cut off. If at the end of a fortnight of this confinement together the couple still clamoured for a divorce it was granted without further enquiry.

IN connection with the recommendations of the recent Uncovenanted Service Select Committee, the Lahore paper says that a despatch has been received by the Government of India from the Secretary of State, leaving it entirely to the Government to sanction, for Uncovenanted officers generally, the counting of their service for pension from the age of twenty, as well as permitting them to allow all furlough taken *out of India* to count as service towards pension. The first of these concessions was recommended by the Committee; and with regard to the second, the recommendation was that "*some* furlough" should count towards pension.

Tuesday, 7th October.

THE Government of India have recently laid down the general principle which in future will regulate the grant of gratuities on retirement to officers employed on guaranteed and other assisted Railway Companies. Gratuities will as a rule only be granted when retirement has been caused by sickness or accident or on the abolition of an appointment Specially distinguished service also may be held to justify a gratuity; but where an officer has served his full time and retires merely on account of old age without having done anything to bring him under this saving clause, he will not be considered to have any claim to consideration. The Government hold that under such circumstances a man must have had sufficient opportunity to make suitable provision for his family in anticipation of his retirement.

SIR EDWARD BUCK has arrived at Simla, and the Agricultural Conference, which is now in session, is expected to last the whole week.

THE Commission which has been sitting at Hyderabad for many months past to investigate the affairs and liabilities of the Salar Jung family is said at last to have come to an end of its work.

IT is said that the North-Western Provinces Government, on the score of excessive cost, have decided to finally abandon the proposed Industrial and Sanitary Exhibition which it was intended to hold in the winter of 1891. The Lieutenant Governor, however, is very anxious that a collection of useful and sanitary appliances should be made, and with the object of making such a collection available to all Municipal Boards and the public generally, he has, we believe, called for a report on the feasibility of working out a scheme for the establishment of a central depot where all such appliances could be got together and kept for inspection and instruction.

IT is rumoured that Rao Bahadur V. J. Kirtane having resigned the Dewanship of Indore the same has been offered to Rao Bahadur K. C. Bedarkar The matter, it is said, is now under the consideration of the Government. The *Marhatta* of Puna, remarks :—We hope Government will sanction the appointment. Rao Bahadur Bedarkar to his many other good qualities adds tact—which is so essential to the Dewan of a Native State like Indore. If the Rao Bahadur goes to Indore he will be sadly missed here. He has created a large place for himself in Puna society by his affability, hospitality and many other social virtues.'

MR. Harrington, M.P. who is the defending counsel for Messrs O'Brien, Dillon and the others now on their trial at Tipperary, having refused to withdraw certain disorderly language he had made use of, was ordered to withdraw from the case. An uproarious scene followed, and the Court was cleared and adjourned abruptly.

SERVANTS of the Government of India in Persia are henceforth to be asked to pay Income-tax on the ground that they are deriving their salaries from the Indian revenues.

WE are told that in Kissengunge in Purneah, the people are beginning to form Joint-Stock Companies, and gradually superseding the merchants, who used to monopolise the trade at that place.

THE fourth Annual Exhibition 1890-91 of Photographic Apparatus, will be held in Calcutta during December, 1890,

A SUIT for damages has been filed in the Bombay High Court against Mr. Pat Doyle, Editor of *Indian Engineering*, by Messrs. Baldwin and Latham, the eminent Sanitary Engineers, on a charge of defamation.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF is, according to the latest news from Teheran, in a very critical state of health.

MR. CAINE will be the guest of Lord Connemara during his visit to Madras.

THE Assam Railway Company have struck a promising oil spring in the Lakhimpur district, at a depth of 615 feet. The oil overflowed the top of the bore, and all the available barrels on the spot were quickly filled.

Wednesday, 8th October.

So the *bakrid* festival of the Mahomedans did not pass off so quietly as we supposed. The *Hindustan* thus gives a horrible account of outrage and insult practised on the Hindus of Rohtak :—"No justice was administered by the local Executive authorities to the Hindus on the occasion of the last *bakrid* festival. The Hindus of Rohtak have memorialized the Punjab Government to the effect that the Mahomedans were allowed to slaughter cows in more places than the five Mahallahs prescribed by Government; that cows were slaughtered by them in the heart of the Bazar and even in the very adjoining parts of *Shivalaya*—temple. Both places are situated on a high road, and the grossest oppression which they had endured was that some twenty or twenty five respectable Hindus, who were enrolled as Special Constables of the Punitive Police, were forced to defend the Mahomedans, and thus to encourage them in the slaughter of cows and virtually join in the act. They were subjected to such spectacles as were extremely revolting to their religious feelings. Section 17 of Act X of 1816 provides the power, but the delegation of Punitive Police should be made only when the Regular Police reports its own position untenable, and when it is a *sine qua non* in consequence of the necessity of greater strength to keep the peace. But in Rohtak a force has been appointed to look after the town. The sole object of adopting such measures was to harass the Hindus and to wound their religious feelings."

THE Kashmir Durbar has unanimously approved of an asylum to contain some fifty lepers being constructed and supported by the State. The average cost per patient is calculated not to exceed two rupees and eight annas per diem. His Excellency the Viceroy has signified his satisfaction at the step taken by the Kashmir authorities.

THE patents to make women beautiful are numerous. The nose-improver is one of the most curious of these patents. It has made, it is said, a fortune for its inventor, and it consists of a metal shell formed of two parts, which are connected by a hinge. The shape of its inside is that of a perfect nose, aquiline, Roman or Grecian, as you prefer, and it does all its work at night. The patentee states that the nose should be first well bathed in warm water and then greased with olive oil it is thoroughly softened. After this, the improver is to be attached and the person using it is to go to bed and sleep until morning. At first, it is said, the operation is somewht painful; but this wears off in a few nights, and the soft cartilage of the nose soon begins to assume the form of the beautiful shape of the improver. At the end of eight weeks you have a brand, new nose, which remains with you until you get tired of it, when you buy a different style of improver and come out in a new nose quite different from your last one, but still beautiful.

IN a leading article the Editor of the *Lat Pan*—a Chinese paper published in Singapore—writes that on the occasion of his birthday this year his friends and relatives offered him their congratulations, accompanied in every case by a present of money or eatables. He, however, declined to accept any of them as he is of opinion that it is not in accordance with reason for a young man to celebrate his birthday. 'We must remember,' the Editor continues, 'that our birthday is the day on which our mothers suffered indescribable agony on our accounts, and we, therefore, should not enjoy ourselves on that day. Every superior man as a rule cleans himself and fasts on his birthday, and never complies with the ordinary customs of the world. Age, of course, makes some difference. By that time we have children and grandchildren around us, and if they insist respectfully on showing their filial affection by celebrating our birthday we cannot decline to accept their good wishes, but for a young man this should never be allowed as there are many things for him to do which will benefit him more than enjoying himself on his birthday. Moreover such a practice encourages extravagances and entails a great loss of life among the lower creatures; I will therefore never run the risk of incurring the displeasure of Heaven by celebrating my own birthday.' The Editor of *Lat Pan* evidently feels that he does not deserve the congratulations of his friends. Well, in that case his friends should not thrust them upon him.

Thursday, 9th October.

After many years of close calculation, brought at last to a successful close, Professor Totten, of Yale, announces tht he has identified the conjunction of the sun and moon which marked Joshua's long day. Reckoning back from the present new moon June, 1890, the Bethhoron conjunction took place in mid-heavens exactly 3,435 full lunar years ago; and this in fact, when properly understood, is the key to the whole system of lunar chronology followed by the ancient nations. Mr. Totten states that his calculations point with absolute certainty to the fact that, then and there at the time of this remarkable conjunction, those charged with the keeping of the Hebrew calender must have intercalated a single weekday, which he identifies as Wednesday, the 933,286th day of the world. Mr. Totten also states that eight hundred and two lunar years and three lunations ago a similar conjunction occurred on the zenith of the same place, Bethhoron; that is at the September lunation of 1,112 A. D.

In the current issue of the *New Review*, Sir Charles Bruce, the Governor of British Guiana, has an interesting article on the emigration of labour from this country to the British colonies. Sir Charles recalls the fact, made known to us some time ago by the Calcutta Emigration Agent, that since 1854 over thirty thousand emigrants have returned from his colony, bringing with them remittances amounting to over £450,000; that since 1875 they have brought back jewellery valued at £55,000; and that the amount standing to the credit of the emigrants in the savings banks of the colony exceeds £100,000. He tells us also that the value of the cattle possessed by them exceeds £130,000; that they are rapidly acquiring substantial territorial interests, and that some of them are prominent owners of race-horses. These facts Sir Charles regards as a sort of object lesson, from which the Government of India should learn that it is alike their duty and their policy to encourage emigration from this country by every means in their power.

Traffic in Human Hair in South France.—A visitor to St Nectaire, Puy-De-Dome, writes:—'I have just been the witness of a curious scene at a fair not far from here. A woman was kneeling on the ground near a stall, uncoifed, with her hair falling down her back. Then a man with a great pair of scissors took the waving tresses in his hand and sheared them off close to the head, leaving only a lock at each temple. The deed was done in a few seconds, and the effect was simply horrible. It seemed to me that an abominable assault had been committed; but the woman who had lost her hair was evidently not of the same mind, for she rose from the ground gaily, covered her bare scalp with her cap, and received the gentle caresses of the shearer smilingly. No money was paid, but the woman who was sheared was allowed to choose 12yds. of some cheap dress material from the stall. Another young woman was only offered 6yds. of stuff for her hair, which she had carefully combed out before the bystanders, but she refused to part with it for less than 7yds. and the dealer being equally obstinate she at length tied it up with a string, put on her cap, and trudged away towards her mountain home. This practice of hair dealing in districts where life is too hard for the married woman to preserve an ornament that nature has given her, when it can be exchanged for something useful, explains the ease with which the society lady obtains her borrowed plumes. But what a difference between the price originally paid to the grower and that paid by the eventual wearer.'

The following incident will show how the dishonest *arkatis* have commenced way-laying innocent maids from their home seclusion. 'One Bepin Chundra Pramanick of Ranigunge has a wife and a kept woman. An *arkati* through the help of the woman brought the young wife of Bepin, not over 14 years of age, down to Calcutta and after taking her to several places got her registered at Alipore under a false name as a coolie and deposited her at the coolie depot of one H. Baney of Bali-ghata. Bepin after a fruitless search of several days came to know the deplorable fate of his young wife and the perpetrators of such foul conspiracy who victimised his young wife. He instituted a case in the Magistrate's court Sealdah, and we are glad to say the accused were sent up to the Sessions.' How long are we to hear these sickening reports, and how long will the Government tolerate *this sort of villainy for the sake of a few tea-planters in Assam?*

Mr. Caine has nearly finished his new book on India. He has been spending nearly a couple of months at Holybourne near Acton, in Hampshire, putting the finishing touches to it. In all probability copies of the work will precede him to India, where he expects to arrive about the middle of November.

Friday, 10th October.

A reference to the High Court by the Judicial Commissioner of Chota Nagpore in relation to the recent Missionary rioting case was disposed of as follows by the High Court:—*Prinsep, J.*—'The Judicial Commissioner of Chota Nagpore has referred this conviction and sentence of Fr. Cus, a Roman Catholic priest, to us for the purpose of revision, holding that he should have been convicted of a more grave offence, and that under the circumstances there should be a re-trial. On this, a rule has been issued by this Court to show cause, not for a re-trial, but why the conviction and sentence should not be set aside, and altered into a conviction and sentence either under Section 326 or 148 of the Penal Code. The rule does not provide for dealing with the case in the manner suggested by the Judicial Commissioner in his reference; nor does it enable us to consider whether the sentence passed on the facts found by the Magistrate is a proper sentence. We find ourselves unable to deal with the rule as it has been served, for in the view that we take of the law, we think that the accused, having been convicted under section 335 on a charge drawn only under that section, he could not properly be convicted in the same trial of an entirely different offence—one offence being of a graver character than that with which he has been charged and another offence being of an entirely different character. Under such circumstances, the rule must be discharged. But it remains for us to consider in what manner we shall deal with this case, for there are sufficient grounds *prima facie* for desiring consideration, whether the sentence, passed is a proper sentence or possibly whether the conviction is one which ought to be sustained having regard to the gravity of the offence. We do not feel inclined to order a re-trial as suggested by the Judicial Commissioner, having regard to the strong opinion expressed by the Magistrate who heard the witnesses and tried the case, regarding the unsatisfactory character of the evidence in respect to the circumstances in proof of the grave offence. It, however, seems to us that it is a matter for consideration whether on the facts found, the prisoner should not be sentenced to a more severe punishment than he has received; and moreover, as the punishment for the offence of which he has been convicted is more than sufficient than in any view of the facts disclosed we are competent to pass, we think that a rule should be served on the accused Cus to show cause why the sentence passed by the Magistrate should not be enhanced in such manner as the Court may think fit.'

The *Morning Post* of Monday has the following news. A Bhosawal correspondent informs the *Post* that "a scuffle took place on the Bhosawal platform on the night of the 1st instant between two European first class passengers. One, I believe, is a colonel holding an important judicial position; the other is a mechanical engineer. It would appear that the engineer occupied one of the lower berths of the carriage which the colonel intended utilising, in signification of which the latter threw his rug on it. The engineer's servant in laying out his master's bed pushed the rug aside. The colonel taxed the engineer about this in language which was more forcible than polite. The engineer replied in the same strain, on which the colonel pitched a glass of whisky which he had in his hand, into the engineer's face, who pulled off his coat and hit him straight from the shoulder. This rather staggered our hero, who then flung the tumbler at the engineer, cutting him behind the ear, and closed in upon him. Fortunately for the colonel—as the engineer was as fine a specimen of muscular humanity as you would find in a day's ride by train—Mr. Tisdale, a railway engineer, who was also a passanger by the same train, slipped in between and separated them."

The offices of the N. W. P Government will probably close at Naini-Tal on the 17th instant. The Lieutenant-Governor after reaching Lucknow remains there until the 20th November, when he goes over to Agra, where he will stay during the Viceroy's visit. The months of December and January will be devoted to a long camping tour over the Agra division, and early in February Sir Auckland Colvin comes in to Allahabad.

A large and influential gathering of Scotsmen met on Wednesday afternoon at No 27 Dalhousie-square to consider what should be done on St. Andrew's day to commemorate the memory of their Patron Saint, and it was unanimously resolved to meet at Dinner in the Town Hall on Saturday, the 29th November at 7 30 P.M. Mr. George A. Ormiston was unanimously elected honorary secretary to the Committee appointed to make all arrangements.

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Saturday, 11th October.

The *Bombay Gazette* has the following paragraph which will be of interest to the Bar in Calcutta:—"Lord Colin Campbell did a service to the local Bar, which his professional brethern will appreciate in bringing to notice the conduct of a so-called law broker, who had endeavoured to persuade him that well-known Bombay Barristers were not above giving commissions to *dalals*, who brought them business. Having regard to the view that is taken of this departure from Bar rules, not only by the profession themselves, but by English legislation, the defamatory nature of the allegations, made by Kanji Ludha could not be doubted, and Lord Colin Campbell acted with a praiseworthy regard for the credit of his profession in promptly informing Messrs. Kirkpatrick and Anderson of the liberty that the man had taken with their names. It is true that the proceedings were not necessary for vindicating the reputation of these gentlemen, but they were necessary in order to remind men who ply the law-brokers' trade that the rule of the Bar in regard to this matter of commissions is absolute. That the *dalal* should flourish as he does is owing to the inability of many of the Pleaders' class to persuade themselves that they can do without him. This, however, is their affair.'

Indian Engineering says:—"The paper mills at Lucknow, Puna, and Travancore are essentially *native* in their proprietary and management.

The *Kyasthu Gazette* states that the health of the Maharaja of Durbhunga, having much improved, His Highness is not going to Simla for a change, as previously announced.

The Kalka-Umballa Railway will not be opened for the public till the middle of the November. Sir Charles Elliott and Colonel Forbes will travel over the new line on the 18th.

The intense excitement and uneasiness, provoked in the Indian mind by the recent Courtallam scandal, have subsided, but a keen and settled appointment has taken their place, as no punishment of any sort has yet overtaken the English officials, who had allowed their better judgment to be wrapped by race-prejudice, and who had played all pranks to outrage public feeling. Lord Connemara's Government was good enough to intervene with its influence, and the High Court interposed its authority in favour of the wronged and weaker party. But the way the High Court has written its judgment without a strong censure on the conduct of the Magistrates and apparent nonchalance with which our Government seem to treat the affair after the release of the unfortunate Mysoreans, without expressing a word of disapprobation of the way in which its District representatives have well nigh succeeded in tarnishing the fair fame of England for fair play and justice have not satisfied the public expectations.

The Governor of Madras visited the General Hospital, with several officials, last evening, to discuss alterations in the buildings His Excellency has intimated that it will give him much pleasure to receive a deputation of the Committee appointed to take steps regarding the sanitary improvements. The death-rate has dropped to 50½ per mille.

The memorial to Government from the Committee appointed by the recent public meeting regarding the sanitation of Madras requests that some of the members may be added to the special committee appointed by Government. It also asks for the enlargement of the powers of that committee, for special legislation dealing with the expenditure of imperial or provincial funds on improving the drainage and water-supply and for obtaining Mr. Baldwin Latham's opinion on the questions of drainage and water supply.

A correspondent writes:—'The financial and trade journals in London and the newspapers published in large commercial centres are greatly concerning themselves with the effect of a rising exchange on Indian trade. It is to be hoped the facts are less gloomy than the vaticinations. While the Finance Minister is to have his heart rejoiced. European and Indian traders and the ryots who cultivate for export are to be plunged into the deepest depths of despair from which, if they emerge at all they will emerge half ruined. There may be something of exaggeration in what is said. But there can be no doubt that the gain of an increasing value rupee will be to the few while the loss will be to the many. Some interesting phase of the economic condition will become ripe for solution if the rupee goes to shillings and stays there. The mischief is that this is likely to happen and then when, with immense loss matters adjusted themselves, American silver legislation may take a new turn and the rupee drop to a shilling. The financial future of India is fraught with much peril.'

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The Hindoo Patriot

Monday, October 13, 1890.

THE MORAL AND MATERIAL PROGRESS OF INDIA.

An official account is given every year of the "Moral and Material Progress of India." Moral and material progress is often bound up together, though it is not difficult to separate the one from the other. Unless the material resources of a country are well developed, the people cannot afford to look after their moral welfare. It is wise of the Government of India, therefore, to treat moral progress as an integral part of material progress. The last Report shows that the material progress of the country has been marked in different directions. The crime list shows a large decrease, and the civil suits show a remarkable increase. The increase in civil suits is taken to be an index of the prosperity of the people. Very few persons would indulge in the luxury of going to court to harass an adversary, unless they have the means to pay the heavy expenses of litigation. We are not at all sorry to hear that the civil suits numbered close upon two millions. This would gladden the hearts of Indian philanthropists. This result is eminently due to the British administration of the country.

Another marked feature of the material progress of the country is that the number of women prisoners is steadily decreasing. The number is stated to be only 3000 for all India. 3000 among 130 millions of women is a drop in the ocean, and cannot, therefore, enter into any calculation regarding the degeneracy of our women. The finances are in a prosperous condition. The Finance Minister could show a surplus last year, This is what India could not show for some time. It is certainly matter for rejoicing. Almost all our sources of revenue have shown improvement, and Sir David Barbour has been justly congratulated upon his administration. People are crying against the salt tax and income-tax, it is true, but for all that there is public gratulation over the surplus; and it would be ungracious in us to grumble amidst general rejoicing. Drunkenness has increased, but then it has yielded a large revenue. The evil then has been a great source of gain. As for the moral duty of Government, and tall talk of that kind, that may for a time be set aside. The excise administration has been very successful, and whatever Mr. Caine and his admirers and followers may say, the Government of India can silence all adverse criticism by pointing to the balance-sheet.

The outlay on public works amounted to Rx. 28,200,000; the receipts from the same source came only to 18,000,000. Well, this shows a small difference of 10,200,000. Ten millions and odd do not affect the Indian revenue one way or other, and can, therefore, very well be left out of calculation. The Home charges swallow up a large portion of the Indian revenue. Serious complaints are made by thoughtful people. But these are charges which no official dares touch upon. The Viceroy is utterly powerless in this matter, and he wisely, therefore, refrains from meddling with an affair which is utterly beyond his control, It is well known that Lord Dufferin openly deplored the excessive expenditure; he could only point out the evil; and could do nothing more. There is small chance of the Home charges being reduced for a long time yet. We all deplore the abolition of the import duties; but that is a subject on which the people must not be allowed to express an opinion. It was in pursuance of *imperial* policy that the duties were abolished, and it is in vain to cry against it now. The Indian Press and the Congress-leaders may declaim against it as much as they like. When *imperial* interests are weighed against Indian interests, the latter must give way, and no amount of declamation would produce the least effect.

The trade has greatly increased in volume. It has developed to such an extent that European merchants cannot afford to grant the Durga Puja holidays to their clerks. The poor clerks have been enjoying these holidays for upwards of a century, but the claims of trade are so great now that the national holidays must be curtailed. The merchants have succeeded even in coercing the Government to give in to their views. Memorials, most influentially signed, have been presented in vain praying for the restoration of the holidays. The fiat has gone forth that the Durga Puja holidays must no longer exist. Dissatisfaction has been loudly expressed, but such dissatisfaction cannot touch the *imperial* policy of the India Government. The military expenditure is increasing, and a large portion of the Indian revenues is absorbed in it. Those who complain about it are told that the safety of India lies in its military strength, and those who speak against such expenditure display great ignorance of the British position in India. Kashmir has been virtually annexed to the British Empire, and it is said that there has been a violation of treaty rights. The idea is preposterous, say the advocates of the annexation policy. It is the benefit of the people which the Paramount Power must look to, and not the self-gratification of a debauched Prince. There is *imperial* policy here again, and the people must not try to pry into its mysteries.

The above will shew in what directions the material progress of the country has been developed. We should see now what has been the character of the moral progress of the country. A summary is thus given of this progress. "An immense amount of labour is being bestowed upon education of all grades throughout the vast Empire, from the Punjab to Coorg—both upon elementary education, which is gradually to enable the ignorant millions to read and write, and upon the higher education, which is qualifying so many natives, to sit as magistrates and to become members of the Civil Service. In Madras the number of pupils rose from 505,000 to 55 0,000, representing a proportion to the population, of school-going-age of about 20 to 100 as to the boys, and of nearly 3 to 100 as to the girls. The proportion in Bombay is decidedly better, the girls' percentage being nearly the same, but that of the boys 28 as against 20. This last, the Madras percentage, is practically that which prevails throughout India; and it can hardly be called a satisfactory one as yet. As to middle and higher schools, they mark a general progress. In the North-Western Provinces and Oudh the demand for college classes increased by nearly 40 per cent. during the year; and smaller increase seems to have prevailed generally throughout India, it being plain to the more intelligent natives that the way to Government employment lies through the higher schools. As to native literature, it is showing steady progress. In Madras 1,169 works were registered; and the Statement remarks that these show various signs of new literary influences and new interest of a certain kind. In Bombay the number reached 1,924, but the quality showed little improvement. It is in Bengal and the North-West that the newspaper Press, especially the weekly Press, is most active; and several of the weekly native papers there reach a circulation of 20,000." The vernacular journals, says the Report, discuss general politics, local questions, science, social reform, the National Congress movement, the constitution of the legislatures, and the alleged short-comings of the Government and its officials. "Some of them are conducted with ability and moderation; others are apparently edited and written by persons little fitted for the duty of guiding and instructing Native public opinion. Comic and illusrated papers are coming into more extensive circulation. There was no censorship on and of these journals, and no restriction beyond the general law against libel, against indecency, and against exciting sedition; but abstracts of articles and intelligence in vernacular newspapers are laid every week before the local and supreme Governments. The total number of books and publications registered during the year was 9,298 or eight per cent. above the number of the preceding years; about nine-tenths of these were in vernacular languages. The object of the greater number of these works fell under the heads of language and school-books, religion, poetry, drama, and fiction; the number of books on history and biography was smaller than in the previous year."

Of the real moral progress of the country, the Report says nothing. On the intellectual awakening of India, and on the forces which are revolutionising the social organisation of the country, the Report is entirely silent. Those who have any knowledge of the country are aware that New India is showing unmistakeable signs of vigorous life.

GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE ENTERPRISE.

The Government of Lord Ripon, the reader may remember, issued eight years ago a Resolution directing the substitution, as far as possible, of articles of indigenous manufacture for imported European stores in the public service of India. This measure was adopted not a day too soon. The purchase of stores by the India Office for use in this country had been over and over again been condemned as a grave scandal. It has been repeatedly shown that in the first place, the Indian tax-payer has to pay inordinately high prices for the articles; secondly, that the cost of the special Department which is maintained at the India Office for the purchase of stores is thrown upon him; thirdly, that he is charged with extravagant freights; fourthly, that he has to bear the loss by exchange for remittances

from India. Although Lord Ripon and Sir Evelyn Baring could not thoroughly remedy the serious evils above mentioned, still they expressed their earnest desire to give the utmost encouragement to private enterprise in this country. Their Resolution favouring the purchase in the local markets of articles of *bona fide* local manufacture was unquestionably a wise measure for which they deserved much credit.

That this openly declared policy of the Government of India and the orders for materials which resulted therefrom have done much to encourage local manufactures and foster indigenous industries, cannot for a moment be doubted. But it seems that the generous policy which Lord Ripon and Sir Evelyn Baring adopted in this matter is about to be reversed. The Government of India has recently imposed stringent restrictions on officers of the Public Works Department against the purchase of iron work of local manufacture, the standing orders of that Department distinctly specifying that all such material must, in future, be ordered from England through the Secretary of State. The representative manufacturing engineers and iron founders of India have submitted to the Viceroy a well-written petition on this subject. The petitioners point out that the well-established though comparatively new industry of this country carried on by them, is at the present time not only suffering severely, but that its very existence has been imperilled by the restrictions imposed by the Government of India against the purchase of iron-work of local manufacture. The petition states:—"Your Excellency's memorialists having in past years been favoured with a considerable portion of Government work, as also the encouragement of Government rulings in favour of local industries, view with alarm and regret the reversal of a policy which they respectfully submit is inseparably allied with the future prosperity of this great nation, and the abandonment of which has not only deprived numbers of skilled native artisans of regular employment at wages much in advance of their fellow-citizens in the same class of life, but threatens with serious danger a number of engineering firms that have invested large capital in property and plant for the successful development of this particular industry in India." The Government of India has since the great famine of 1877-78 in Northern and Southern India repeatedly declared that it would do all that lies in its power to encourage the establishment of new industries and foster the growth of existing industries in this country. The Famine Commission, in the second part of this Report, which deals with remedial measures, laid special stress on this subject. The Commissioners made it clear that so long as the vast population of India almost entirely depended upon agriculture for their subsistence they must suffer periodically from famines. It was, accordingly, suggested that new industries should be established in this country, for improving the material condition of the people. Though the immediate cause which led the Government of Lord Ripon to favour the purchase in the local markets of articles of local manufacture was the unfavourable rate of exchange, still it cannot be denied that they were anxious to give effect to the suggestions of the Famine Commission of which mention has been made above. They felt that the substitution of articles of local manufacture for imported stores would not be a measure of economy, but that such a measure would also provide large numbers of the people of India with employment by promoting the creation of new industries. One of the results of this policy has been to foster and increase the manufacture of structural and other iron work in India, and that infinite possibilities are, as the petitioners state, involved in the growth of this industry which is yet in its infancy. They speak nothing but the truth when they say that this well-established though comparatively new industry of this country must of necessity be the pioneer to the opening up of the vast stores of mineral wealth in iron, stone and coal, which worked together will do more to raise the Indian Empire in the scale of nations than any other outcome of Western civilization. The petitioners observe:—"Your Excellency's memorialists need hardly point out that where there are no users of iron and steel, there is no incentive for the production, and that the reduced demand for these materials consequent on the reversal of the policy of the Government of India, is in result practically equivalent to a declaration that the development of the mineral resources of the country is not considered worthy of encouragement. When your Excellency in Council takes into consideration the unquestionable fact that other nations, which now take high rank as manufacturing centres of the world, notably the United States of America, considered heavy protection duties out too high a price to pay for the fostering of Indian industries, and the consequent and surprisingly beneficial development of the mineral wealth of the country, your memorialists cannot but think that your Excellency will see good cause to modify the existing Government orders which in their present form not only arrest the growth of what would otherwise be a thriving industry, but threaten with extinction a source of material prosperity which has attained its present importance without artificial aid of any descriptions." We trust very earnestly that these sensible and thoughtful observations will receive at the hands of the Government of India that careful and attentive consideration which the importance of the question demands.

The petitioners have satisfactorily disposed of the sundry objections which the Secretary of State for India raises to the manufacture of iron-work in this country. In the first place, he doubts whether suitable plant for testing material is available in India; in the second, whether qualified inspecting staff exists in the country. The petitioners rightly urge that if the particular branch of industry in which they are engaged is to be discouraged on such grounds, there is no probability of future development, and the iron trade of India will continue in its present condition. But with proper encouragement they are confident the iron industry in India has a great future before it, and they predict that private enterprise and capital will not be backward in opening up and manufacturing the rich mineral deposits of the raw material when increased activity of the pioneer industry of the iron-workers calls for it in sufficient quantities. We need hardly say that we fully agree with the petitioners on this point. Their prediction will surely be fulfilled if the iron trade of India should receive encouragement from Government. When the Government of India favoured the purchase in the local markets of articles of *bona fide* local manufacture, it ruled that "there are many articles which may not be immediately obtained in the local market, but which can be made in the event of Government encouraging the manufacture." The correctness of this ruling will not be questioned by any intelligent and unprejudiced person. The petitioners take up an unassailable position when they unhesitatingly declare that with a large proportion of the population trained as skilled artisans in the working of iron and other metals, and new firms with enlarged workshops and increased appliances devoted to this particular branch of industry, the resources of India have never before offered such a promising field for the encouragement of Government support. Unless it can be satisfactorily proved that the restrictions which the Government of India has recently imposed against the purchase of iron-work of local manufacture are necessary for the protection of the interests of the tax-payer, we would give our strongest support to the petition under notice and commend it to the favorable consideration of the Government of India.

THE EXCISE ADMINISTRATION.

THE Lieutenant-Governor in his resolution on the excise administration published last week observes:—The year was an eventful one in the history of Bengal excise. Upon the 1st April 1889 outstills were abolished throughout the whole of the district of the 24-Pergunahs, as well as in Howrah and the Serampore sub-division of Hughly. This change has resulted in a decrease of revenue, and, what is more important to observe, a decrease in consumption also. The revenue from country spirits throughout the whole of the metropolitan area affected including Calcutta, fell from Rs. 14,19,384 to Rs. 13,32,888. The consumption of liquor throughout the same area decreased from 275,842 to 228,925 gallons. In the area previously supplied from outstills the consumption fell from 50,913 gallons, as shown in the outstill accounts, to 13,079 gallons issued from the central distilleries. These calculations are in gross gallons in each case, and although the central distillery liquor in Calcutta is of high alcoholic strength, while the outstill spirit was exceedingly weak, there can be no doubt that there has been in this area a satisfactory reduction in the consumption of country spirits The retail price was more than doubled. *Per contra* there was an increase in the consumption of country rum. From the 1st April 1890 outstills have been abolished throughout the Burdwan, Presidency, Dacca, and Orissa Divisions. This is satisfactory so far as it goes.

A sort of lurking regret, however, follows and the Resolution goes on to say:—It is unfortunate that both this reform and that of raising the price of outstill liquor in order to equalise the estimated duty on it with that of distillery liquor, should have had to be introduced in a season of general high prices, which form a disturbing element and obscure for the present the real effects of the measure. How important the effect of high prices has been may be gathered from the falling off of consumption in distillery liquor in Patna, where there has been no other cause to account for the diminution. Both the Board and Mr

Westmacott are of opinion that in certain parts of Western Bengal, where these reforms have been introduced, the facilities for obtaining a cheap illicit supply of liquor are so great that it would have been advisable to retain outstills at least for the present, and in the same connection the Board record the significant observation that they "trust that the measures already adopted for re-introducing the central distillery system may be regarded as an experiment which requires watching before it is extended." We are glad that the Lieutenant-Governor refuses to take this hint and emphatically repeats what His Honor has already declared on more than one occasion, that "it must be distinctly understood by the Excise Commissioner, and by all officers concerned with the administration of excise in Bengal, that the policy which has received the approval of the Secretary of State and of Government is that the outstill system should be replaced by a central distillery system whenever circumstances render it expedient; and, speaking generally, the only circumstances which render the change inexpedient are sparse population, difficulties of supervision, proximity to alien territory, and a liquor which will bear neither transportation nor keeping." This enunciation of policy has been approved by the Secretary of State, and it is to be hoped that Indian excise authorities will act up to it.

The force of the emphasis, however, comes to be lost to a degree when the resolution in the same breath goes on to add that "it is not intended that outstills should be suppressed in localities where experience shows that distilleries cannot be advantageously introduced." It is on these lines that the action of Government has been based. The Secretary of State expressed a hope, in his despatch, dated 18th July 1889, to the Government of India, that the rates of excise revenue raised under the outstill system in Bengal might be reduced from 61 per cent. to some such rate as that which obtained in Madras and the North-West Provinces at any rate, if not to that obtaining in Bombay. During the year under review the proportion of the percentage of outstill revenue in Bengal had slightly decreased to 58 per cent., and during the current year there will be a considerable further reduction. But it is apprehended that it will not be possible in Bengal to work up to the low percentage attained in other provinces. One half of the Bengal revenue from country spirits is derived from the Patna, Bhagulpore, and Chota Nagpore Divisions where the principal material used for the manufacture is the flower of the mohwa tree, and the spirit so made, it is said, will not bear transport, but rapidly deteriorate when kept. Such spirit, it is urged, must be manufactured near the place where it is consumed. This, if there were no other objection, would be some reason why a central distillery system cannot be successfully introduced into such tracts of country as the rural parts of Behar and Chota Nagpore. It is, however, admitted that the number of central distilleries must every where be limited. The failure of the old system of distilleries was largely due to their excessive number and to the consequent impossibility of exercising proper supervision over them. It has now been deemed advisable to have central distilleries only at the head-quarters of districts where they can be thoroughly watched by responsible officers. At the same time arrangements have been made for the establishment of depots or warehouses at all sub-divisional head-quarters, from which shops remote from the distilleries can be supplied with liquor. This system, according to Mr. Westmacott, who seems to be no great admirer of the innovation, adds greatly in cost of carriage to the price of liquor before it reaches the retail vendors. But it is the only way in which a central distillery system can be worked without risk of fraud. It is said to be incapable of being worked in Behar, because the liquor will not keep or bear the transit. We have extracted this portion *in extenso* to illustrate the type of special pleading still used for defending the outstill system. The Secretary of State's provision about "whenever expedient" is both large and convenient. But his recomendation made in the light of long study and pronounced public opinion has to be given effect to in the spirit and not in the letter. The reform already introduced we thankfully appreciate, and we can quite understand that the whole of the reform cannot be brought about all at once. But retention of the baneful system should find no justification by a process of argument which in effect is, that as the necessaries of life are high in price, liquor should be cheap as otherwise it will not be consumed at all, for that means falling off of revenue. Such logic, to say the least, is not convincing.

INCOME TAX.

IN the resolution on the report on the administration of the Income-tax in Bengal for 1889-90 we are told that the total demand for the year under all parts of the Act stood at Rs. 44,89,476 against Rs. 42,41,806 in the previous year, while the total collections, exclusive of advance payments and excess collections were Rs. 41,44,257 against Rs. 38,88,388. The net revenue shows an increase of 6·1 per cent. against 5 per cent. in the previous year. The amount originally assessed was Rs.39,38,829, which was reduced to a final demand of Rs. 37,12,130 against Rs. 35,53,678 in 1888-89. By far the larger portion of the increase was as usual contributed by Calcutta, but it was shared by every division except Chittagong and Bhagulpore. The percentage of collection on the final demand was the same as in the previous year, viz., 92·5. In six districts the entire demand was collected within the financial year. The outstanding balance on account of the tax, with penalties and costs, amounts to Rs. 3,45,219, of which Rs. 1,46, 143 are reported to be good, Rs. 1,31,162 doubtful, and Rs. 67,914 irrecoverable. In Calcutta a marked improvement appears in the number of streets visited by the assessors. The number of persons finally assessed was 102,265 against 102,407, the percentage of exemption on revision being 3·1 againt 4.01 in 1888-89. The average incidence of the tax on the whole population of the province (excluding the assessments on salaries of Government servants and on Government securities) was Re. 1 to every 17.9 persons, and excluding Calcutta the average incidence in the districts was Re. 1 to every 36 inhabitants. The proportion of the number of persons assessed to the whole population was 1 to 650. Of the entire amount of the present tax nearly one-half is paid in the metropolis alone. The productiveness of the tax bears a larger proportion in Calcutta under the present Income-tax Act because agricultural incomes are exempted under it and the great bulk of large incomes due to other sources than agriculture is to be found in Calcutta. The expenditure of the year amounted to Rs. 1,66,778 against Rs. 1,56,470 in the previous year, while the percentage of the cost on the net collections stood at the same figures as in 1888-89, viz., 4·02. The resolution frankly admits that that, the tax continues to be unpopular is notorious; but it observes that a larger revenue is annually obtained with less friction and less necessity for having recourse to coercive measures. Speaking of the coercive measures the Resolution says:—"There has been a steady decline in the number of cases in which coercive measures were necessary for the recovery of the tax. In only 267 cases out of 102,265 assessments was actual sale resorted to. The number of sales was comparatively large in Rungpore (51), Purneah (24) and Singhbhoom (21). The percentage of warrants issued has declined from 11·9 in 1886-87 and 6·3 in 1888-89 to 4·6 in 1889-90. In Calcutta distress warrants were issued in only 112 cases against 1,243 in the previous year." There is more in this than meets the eye. If the Resolution means to say that the small number of coercive measures shows that the people quietly submit to this odious tax, nothing can be further from truth. People do not allow the Government to sell their property to pay this tax, they sell it themselves that it may not be sold greatly under its value.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES

IT is a source of gratification to learn that His Excellency the Viceroy is now completely restored to health. His Excellency is enjoying a little holiday now at Mashorba.

THE Calcutta Small Cause Court and the Civil Courts in the Mafassil closed on Saturday last for the Durga Puja holidays.

WE are sincerely sorry for the results of the *Tribune* defamation case which came to an end on Friday last. The Magistrate found Sardar Dyal Singh Majetia, the proprietor, not guilty of defamation, but of abetting the sale of a copy or copies of the *Tribune* containing the defamatory articles, and has fined him in the sum of Rs. 2,500. The editor, Babu Sitala Kant Chatterjee, has been found guilty of defamation and fined in the sum of rupees one thousand. Six months' imprisonment is to be the alternative of not paying the fine. Mr. Warburton has been allowed to bring a civl suit for damages.

PARLIAMENT will re-assemble on the 25th November.

GOLD companies are springing up in all directions, but some of them have been wisely withdrawn already. Companies and firms whose names were unknown before, are assuming agency of management, and quite a rush for Metamorphous and Sub-Metamorphous land in the Singbhoom and Manbhoom districts has made quiet and peace-loving Ghatwalls to rush in their turn to Calcutta and see what bargains can be picked up. A special "Gold Gazette" is published every evening in the interest of some of the Companies and the share market is brisker than anything that one ever saw except perhaps in the Port Canning days.

People who know shake their heads and pronounce that the crash cannot be put off much longer and then a crisis will have come. As an European gentleman aptly remarked the other day it will bring veritable gold to some who can opportunely dispose of their shares to an advantage, but to the bulk of the maniacs it will be a rather cold business altogether. Auriferous tracts there unquestionably are in the districts now being explored, but the point is whether it is enough even to pay the working expenses, leave alone the fabulous profits that we have been promised. Honest and persevering Companies may come across lead, mica and some other humbler minerals more profitable in the long run than the gold that has created this abnormal fever. Messrs. Cook and sons have arranged tour to the gold valleys and some lawyers have their camp offices there already.

WE are glad that the Corporation of Calcutta have appointed a Committee to enquire into the condition of the hackney carriages plying in our streets. The condition, we are afraid, does not require much enquiry, for it is pronouncedly miserable. The fare sanctioned and charged is exorbitant, considering the accommodation in return, and any change for the better will be thankfully recieved. There are some tolerable vehicles in the southern parts of the town, but those in the native quarters defy description for the most part.

A PARNELLITE Conference was recently opened in Dublin, when it was resolved to do the utmost to assist the evicted tenants who are struggling for justice, and to appeal to the British public on their behalf. It was also resolved to neglect nothing which might assist in overthrowing coercion. Seven Irish Members of Parliament, including Messrs. Dillon and O'Brien, were appointed to advocate the cause in America. Mr. Parnell was not present, and wrote to the Chairman regretting his inability to attend.

THE *Bombay Gazette* says:—"The Hon'ble Mr. *Justice Chunder Madhub Ghose, Judge*, Calcutta High Court, and Sir Romesh Chunder Mitter, ex-Judge, Calcutta High Court, arrived in Bombay on the 1st instant by the Jubbulpore mail train, and are staying at Readymoney House, Malabar Hill, as guests of Mr. Goverdandas Goculdas Tejpal." Justice Chunder Madhub Ghose has latterly been somewhat poorly in health, and we trust the trip will do him good. Sir Romesh Chunder has, it is satisfactory to note, been much better since his retirement.

ONE of the greatest mistakes that the Congress leaders could commt would be to make it a costly pageantry year afteir year. The Province in which the Congress for the year is held should be in a position to welcome it as a light burden, and not hate and avoid it as an expensive picnic though of a national character. We have had enough splendour and *eclat* successively in Calcutta, Madras, Allahabad and Bombay, and so far as any purpose is to be gained by display the work is done. Now is the turn for economy so that the stability of the movement may be ensured beyond doubting and no uneasiness may be felt from year's end to year's end as to how a large amount is to be collected for defraying the necessary expenses. We congratulate the Standing Congress Committee and the Reception Committee on their wise determination not to allow "eye-shame" to mar the future prospects of the movement, but to set an example of earnest economy which may be followed year after year by the different Congresses in the different Provinces. Solid work and not ostentatious display should be their only object. Pandals and pavilions do not conduce to any real good, and the Committee, we are glad to hear, have discarded the idea of having them this year at an enormous cost. The meeting of the Congress should, if possible, be held in the Town Hall, which has more than ample accommodation for the purpose. The delegates should, if necessary, be housed at the British Indian Association Rooms, the Indian Association Rooms, the Albert Hall, the Ripon College, the City College and some private houses which should be secured for the purpose. With flood and famine raging all round in the country it would be criminal to waste money on useless display.

THE Manipur revolt is apparently over and the usurper safely settled on his brother's throne. The ex-Maharaja, who is of an eminently peaceable turn of mind, avoided further trouble and bloodshed by abdicating. His Highness is now on his way to holy Brindabun where his last days will be spent.

THE avenging expedition against the foolish Lushais has commenced. The column which left Changsil on the 2nd instant took Thanruma's village on the morning of the 4th and set fire to it. No loss was sustained by the column.

WE are glad to learn that order is now being gradually restored in Goanese territory. What notice will the Portugese Government take of the outrage? Our Government will not of course interfere. But the question has Indian interest.

THE report about the Chinese Amban's death has been proved to be unfounded. We are told letters, dated the 15th of August, have been received from him from Lassa, where he had arrived safe after inspecting the troops in Ulterior Tibet. He is said to have recently been promoted to be Chief Resident in that country.

WE understand that the Bengal Government has made a grant of Rs. 5,000 for the current official year for placing the administration of the Calcutta Public Library on a better footing. If the Library is really to be improved Government grant at the outset at all events ought to be less stinted. Why, book-binding alone will come up to a considerably large figure, leave alone cataloguing and getting in new books. The Municipal grant is decent enough though, considering the Government standard.

IMPERSONATION of the 'Prophet,' is, for religious reasons, distasteful to the Faithful, and our Mussulman fellow subjects naturally feel very strongly on this subject. Some years ago in Calcutta we have had evidence of this feeling which was evoked by the report of a play being about to be brought out with Mahomed as its hero. The movement was, however, promptly put down as a breach of the peace was anticipated. Only last year our Mussulman friends at Bombay were very much exercised by the refusal of a Paris Manager to withdraw such a play, though the Sultan of Turkey intervened in the matter, and the result was that they refused in a body to attend any theatrical performance at all in their own city. A Liverpool theatre has lately been advertising a new play by Mr. Hall Caine about the life of Mahomed which was looked forward to as a great success. Strong objection has been taken to the production, and we are glad to learn that the project is likely to be abandoned out of respect to the feelings of Her Majesty's Mussulman subjects. This is a graceful demonstration of the spirit of religious toleration which is one of the grandest bulworks of British Power in the east. What the light-hearted French with no Mussulman subjects to speak of, could afford to do, could not be thought of by British authorities that have large number of Musulmans to govern in different parts of the globe. We trust our fellow-subjects will appreciate this and in their turn learn to respect the religious feelings of others.

A MONSTER demonstration took place at St. John's, New Brunswick, when the Hon. Sir John S. David Thompson, Dominion Minister of Justice, made a speech, in the course of which he said that the United States wished to coerce Canada into lowering the Union Jack, but her loyalty to the mother country was unswerving. Sir John Alexander Macdonald, Premier, predicted that Canada would ultimately secure most of the trade with Asia and Great Britain. The new Tariff Act of the United States, which will act prejudicially to the commerce of Canada, has evoked this loyal outburst.

THE following resolution of the General Committee of the Calcutta Corporation embodies the result of the trial of Mr. Harrington's incinerator at Moulali's Durga, which according to the terms of the contract came to a close on the 30th ultimo:—"So far as regards burning the specified quantity of refuse the incinerator had proved a complete success, but as regards the nuisance caused by the smoke, it had not been a complete success, inasmuch as from enquiries made from residents in the locality and from observations personally made by the Chairman, Health Officer, Engineer, and some members of the Sub-Committee appointed for the purpose, a distinctly offensive smell was found on the tops of houses as well as where the smoke descended on the ground. It was, therefore, agreed, with the consent of Mr. Harrington, who stated that he was able to overcome this defect, by raising the chimney to an additional height of from thirty to fifty feet, and constructing a larger fume cremator at an expenditure not exceeding Rs. 5,000, that the agreement be extended for a further term of two and a half months to enable him to carry out these improvements at the cost of the Corporation, only half the amount remaining due to Mr. Harrington being now paid to him. This payment of Rs. 9,225 will, therefore, be made to him at once." Moulali's Durga, which is almost in the heart of the town is, we are afraid, an unsuitable place for the experiment, and it is a pity that this site was at all chosen. Supposing that the nuisance complained of cannot be abated the continuance of the incinerator in the locality would be the source of great danger to public health and the aid of the High Court would in no time be invoked and invoked with sure success. If it is to be abandoned, expenditure of further money on it would be positive waste. Supposing even the bad smell be avoided by increasing the height of the chimney, it does not follow that the saturation of the atmosphere by noxious gases would not be damaging to the neighbourhood. The point to be cleared up, therefore, is not how the smell is to be got rid of, but whether as a matter of fact the fume and smoke is injurious to health. If everything could be satisfactorily settled the proximity of the incinerator to the town would be an advantage, in that the carriage of the refuse could be considerably saved. We wish Mr. Harrington's experiment every success, but we would not endanger public health on any account in the name of false economy.

DURING the last year the Road and Public works cesses continued to be leived at the maximum rates in all the districts in which Act IX (B.C.) of 1880 is in force, except Backergunge, where the Public Works cess was leived at full rates and the Road cess at half rates. The percentage of arrear collections on arrear demand was 76·8, that of current collections on current demand was 82·2, and that of total collections on current demand was 101·2. With a larger demand the collections have been larger, and the balances have been reduced. The item of remissions, shows some increase, which is due to a sum of Rs. 65,896 having been written off in Burdwan as irrecoverable arrears of petty rent-free holdings. Sales actually took place in 583 cases, of which 54 were subsequently cancelled. The Commissioner recommends that more active measures should have been taken, or certificates should have been filed to realize the Government dues.

THE net customs duly collected last year in Bengal amounted to Rs.2,62,93,652. Since the year 1882-83, when the reduction of salt duty and the remission of all import duties, except those leviable on arms, ammunition, liquors and opium, came into operation, there have been considerable fluctuations in the customs revenue, but the increase in 1888-89 was maintained last year under review. This is due to the levy of a duty of 6 pies per gallon on mineral oil, the importation of which continues to expand in a remarkable manner, thus amply justifying its selection as a suitable article for taxation. Import duties levied on other articles than petroleum, such as wine and spirits, show a general falling off. The decrease in export duty is due to a falling-off in the rice trade. As usual, the bulk of the trade is carried on by the United

Kingdom, the proportion of trade absorbed by that country being no less than 61·71 per cent of the whole trade of Bengal. This percentage is, however, less than that of the preceding ten years. The second place is occupied by China, due to opium transactions (10.1 per cent.), and next stands the United States (6·47 per-cent.). The trade with Germany continues to show a considerable increase.

THE Hon'ble George Hamnett, the newly appointed member of the Madras legislative Council, has commenced proceedings against the *Madras Standard* for defamation.

SCARCITY is again threatened in Ganjam. The Gopalpur correspondent of the *Madras Times* wires a warning about the state of affairs in the district, which has had a succession of bad seasons. He says there is considerable anxiety as to the intentions of the Government regarding the commencement of the Railway. It is not expected that even an eight-anna paddy crop will be secured; other crops are equally short. Emigration has taken away a large number of people, but if the Government would commence the earthwork for the railway, emigration would cease, it is said, and people find employment. In these unfortunate tracts one bad season generally succeeds another, and Government has to be very vigilant.

THE long talked of Agricultural Conference has met at Simla and the following members are attending:

Sir Edward Buck, President, and Mr. Muir Mackenzie representing the Government of India, with Dr. Voelcker, Agricultural Adviser to the Government of India.

From the Punjab—Messrs. Steadman, formerly Director of Agriculture, Robertson, the present Director, and Thomson, Revenue Secretary.

Bombay—Mr. Ozanne, Director of Agriculture, and Dr. Cooke, Principal of the College of Science at Poona.

North-West Provinces—The Hon. W. C. Bennett.

Baroda—Mr. Middleton, in charge of the State Agricultural Department.

Madras—Mr. Clogstoun, Commissioner for Settlements and Agriculture.

Bengal—Mr. Finucane, Director of Agriculture.

Central Provinces—Mr. Fuller, Director of Agriculture.

Mr. Nolan, the Bengal representative, being on special deputation in connection with the floods did not arrive in time to be present at the opening of the Conference.

ACCORDING to the special correspondent of the *Englishman* the primary objects of the Agricultural Conference are to discuss the system under which experimental farms are to be conducted, and an agricultural education provided for, and in connection with these questions, whether it is desirable to obtain the services of first class agriculturists from Europe. The Government of India's representations to the Secretary of State, that an Agricultural chemist was required both for educational proposes at the Forest School at Dehra and the Agricultural College at Poona, as well as for original research in connection with the soils and manures of India, were the occasion of Dr. Voelcker's present mission, and it is understood that the members of the Conference have approved Dr. Voelcker's suggestions. Our own opinion has always been that elaborate scientific and theoretical agriculture will not do in this country and we shall be thankful if the Conference can evolve anything cheap and practical withal.

THE Allahabad paper, as a result of the deserved breakdown of the Chartered Bank case, has been giving currency to an absurd rumour that no Civilian Judges will henceforth be deputed to preside at the Criminal Sessions. Upon this a contemporary pertinently remarks that the assertion is absolutely untrue, as a moment's reflection ought to have shown. "Before the close of the Chartered Bank case, the Chief Justice, who deputes the Judges to such business, was well on his way to Europe. If he heard the result of the case at all it must have been by a brief telegram, and he certainly could never have come to such a decision without consultation. It is equally certain that he would never have communicated such a decision to an outsider. Whether Sir Comer Petheram would be likely to so affront nearly half of the Judges of the Court we leave to the public to decide. For our own part we are confident that there will be no alterations in the rule of business." Supposing there has been a grave miscarriage of justice owing to misreading of law, a whole class of Judges, particularly when they are Civilians and not Vakils or native barristers, cannot thus be arbitrarily excluded. There was never a graver failure of justice than in the O'Hara case, and if the Allahabad paper's logic was not at fault, the Barrister Judges would, we are afraid, have to fare just as ill. Justice Prinsep and Justice Norris are about the most efficient Judges of the High Court that understand, and have made special studies of criminal cases, always barring of course Justice Wilson, and they worthily represent the civilian and barrister elements on the Bench. Such silly talk is, therefore, not worthy of serious attention. If another rumour be true, Justice Prinsep did not act on his own unadvised authority but fully consulted Justice Wilson and in the result laid down the law to the Jury such as he found it to be. If the law is defective, have it amended and reformed by all means. But it is childish petulance to find fault with the judge and jury for a result that could not be resisted having regard to the facts of the case and the conduct of the prosecution.

ACCORDING to a Bombay telegram it is said that in connection with the recent disturbances in Cambay, the Dewan, Shamrao Narayen Laud, has resigned. Mr. J. D. Khandalawala has been appointed in his stead. The Dewan as far as can be gathered had the entire support of the Political Department in all that was done. To make him, therefore, solely responsible for the unfortunate disturbances would hardly be proper. Dewan Shamrao Laud is not in the good books of some in authority who never forgave his having exposed the misdoings of certain men in connection with the Cambay scandal some time ago.

THE High Court does not, in some cases at all events, view the "old offender" as severely as the Government. An old offender was sentenced to a term of imprisonment by a Deputy Magistrate of Burdwan, and while undergoing his sentence a Sub-Inspector filed a petition in which the accused was charged with having no ostensible means of livelihood, and it was prayed that on his release from jail he should be required to find heavy sureties for good behaviour in the future. An order to this effect was made, and on the man being released he was served with it at the jail door, and not being able, as may be supposed, to find the required securities he was removed to the *hajut*. The hearing of the case duly came on before the Magistrate, who confirmed the order for finding sureties and in default directed a term of imprisonment. An appeal was made to the High Court before Justices Prinsep and Wilson. The latter, in giving judgment, after commenting upon the facts, went on to say that whether the accused was a man addicted to liquor, or a loose character, or not, he had not been given an opportunity of showing after his release from jail. Their Lordships thought that an order of this kind was altogether alien to the intentions of the provisions of the law. It was quite clear that these sections were preventive, and not for punishment, and that they were not liable to be used to punish a man for anything which was passed but to prevent him from continuing a reckless and dishonest career in the future. It was clear in their Lordship's opinion, that it must be based upon some kind of evidence or material showing that the man was in the future in danger of falling into a state of lawless or dishonest acts, and in view of such a question a man could not be taken as he was walking out of a jail and bound over again with the alternative of a term of imprisonment. The order was, therefore, set aside.

WE take the following from the *Statesman* and suppose the report is correct:—

A cook in the employ of Babu Bistoram Bannerjee and another was charged with the theft of money from both his employers. It was elicited from the complainants that on their missing the monies and suspecting the accused, they told the man that if he produced the purse and coins they would not take any proceedings against him, but that if he did not do so they would make him over to the police. On the strength of the promise made, the defendant produced the purse and monies, notwithstanding which he was proceeded against. To a question put by the court, the complainants said they had made a promise of pardon, in order to get the man to restore them their monies. His Worship observed that since the complainants had made a false promise (and thereby extorted a confession from the accused) he would not inflict any punishment on the man. He, therefore, ordered his discharge.

Is this good law? The confession might not be admissible in evidence against the accused.

DR. DE JONGH'S LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL.—ITS GREAT VALUE AS A NUTRIENT FOR WEAKLY CHILDREN.—In cases of languid and imperfect nutrition often observed in children, the surprising efficacy of Dr. de Jongh's Oil is thus described by Dr. Edward Carey: "It is in the diseases incidental to childhood, that mainly depend on the mal-assimilation of the food in the pale cachectic child, when the anxious practitioner has exhausted the whole range of alteratives and tonics, that de Jongh's Cod Liver Oil will come in and satisfy his most sanguine expectations. Where the powers of life are low, it affords nourishment to the body when none other can be borne it furnishes the frame with fat in a truly wonderful manner; and administered as it is in Holland, the delicate and puny child, who though not considered ill, is in that state of impaired health which would favour the development of disease, its extraordinary effects will soon be visible, after having taken it for a short period, in a return to health and strength which were before unknown, and which will be accomplished by no other remedy with which we are acquainted. Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is sold only in capsuled imperial half-pints, pints and quarts, with his stamp and signature and the signature of his sole consignees on the capsule and the lebel under wrapper, by all chemists, druggists and store-keepers. Sole Consignees, Ansar, Harford and Co, 210 High Holborn, London.

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MEMORY. LOISETTE'S System. A Cambridge University Lecturer (Dr. R. N. Ingle) was (Jan 1890). "much impressed with the possibilities of improvement to Memory which the LOISETTE Lessons open up." "In three weeks I was able to memorise the names, &c, of 400 men." —Major Jamieson, Bengal S. C. "I intend to educate my son entirely on your system."—Rev. C. E. Cockin, M. A., Rector of Lea (Sept, 1889). "Great advantage to strong memory; incalculable aid to weak one." Dr. J. M. Buckley.' Able to give gist of a book after reading it once." Rev. J. M. Macdonald, B. A. "Excellent travelling companion."—J. B. Haye, Commander, R. N "Wonderful aid to memory."—Mirza Sader-uddin Khan. "Invaluable." —J. J. Francis, Q. C.—"Does not involve much labour."—*Statesman*, 23rd Oct., 1887. "Tremendously popular in Oxford."—*Pall Mall Gazette* 4th Feb., 1890. Prospectus Free. One pupil, Rs 76; Ten pupils, Rs 19 each. Apply to F. Fisk-Williams, Esq. Calcutta; or to Prof. LOISETTE. 37, New Oxford Street, London, England.

But it strikes us rather a novel reading of the law that the accused should be discharged though his guilt be established simply because the clue to the proofs was obtained by representations that afterwards proved to be false. The result of this interpretation carried to its legitimate consequences might be more baneful than the rulings in the O'Hara and the Chartered Bank case.

DR. A. S. LETHBRIDGE on his arrival in Bombay from England has taken up the work of the Factory Commission recently appointed by the Government of India to ascertain, by means of inquiries conducted in the centres of factory labour, the views and requirements of the Indian operatives as to the restrictions to be imposed upon their labour in factories.

The Commission met for the first time on the 4th instant when the following programme of work was laid down. In consideration of the fact that the Government has required the Commission to submit its report by the 13th November, it was decided that the Commission could only visit the following centres of factory labour: Bombay, Ahmedabad, Cawnpore (possibly Agra) and Calcutta. At each of the places the following procedure will be adopted in making the local enquiry. The representatives of the operatives of each province who have been specially appointed to sit on the Commission will, in the first instance, be asked to arrange for the appearance before the Commission of men, women and children who have been selected as working mill hands to represent any labour organization on the spot or where there is no such organization, are selected for their special intelligence or for their influence among their fellow workers.

The next step to be taken will be to ask the member of the Commission who represents the province in which the inquiry is being made, and who therefore has special local knowledge and influence, to ascertain if there are any representative mill hands who, while they do not belong to any organization or party of operatives, are anxious to give their evidence.

The Commission will after recording the evidence obtained from operatives selected in the manner above described, proceed to visit local mills without giving previous notice and at different hours of the working day. On arrival at the will work will be stopped for a few minutes and the operatives paraded outside. Having divided them into groups representing men, women, young persons and children the Commission will select representatives from among them and adjourn to a room in which their evidence will be recorded. The Commission will in conclusion examine all the registers and returns relating to operatives in the mill office and take a copy of any general rules that may be in force for the guidance of mill hands.

While it is not considered expedient to admit the public when ignorant and timid operatives are being examined, lest they should be influenced by the presence of their masters and employers, there is no objection to allow the public and the press to take copies of any evidence that has been recorded. The probable dates on which the inquiry will be held in the different factory centres will be—

Bombay, 4th October to 15th October.
Ahmedabad, 16th October to 20th October.
Cawnpore, 22nd October to 25th October.
Calcutta, 27th October to 5th November.

All communications from the Commission should be addressed to the care of the Post Master of the town in which the Commission is sitting.

The Commission held its second meeting in the Council room of the Bombay Secretariat at 2 P. M. on the 6th, when Mr. Narayan Meghaji Lokhanday brought forward one woman, two lads and an adult male operative whose evidence was recorded.

DISEASES OF THE HEART, especially of the arota, and the coronary cardiac arteries, which develop local pains at the point or at the base of the heart, and irradiations in the shoulder, neck, and left arms. These painful manifestations, often agonizing, yielded rapidly in six cardio-aortic, and three aneurismal cases, under the repeated influence of from 16 to 20 of Doctor Clin's Capsules of Antipyrin, which, moreover, has the great advantage of not troubling in the least, either the force, or regularity of the cardiac pulsations, and may be long continued without any inconvenience.

DURING pregnancy the diminution of Phosphate of lime in the urine shows that the fœtus is draining it from the mother for its own development, and that consequently it is advisable to repair the waste. To do this, women with child will find immense advantage in taking daily, one allowance at least, of Faliere Phosphatine in milk.

Government Notifications

Calcutta Gazette.—*October*, 1890.

GENERAL.—Babu Nibaran Chandra Ghuttuck, Sub-Deputy Collector, in the district of Jalpaiguri, is vested with the powers of a Deputy Collector under Regulation IX of 1833.

Maulvi Mahomed Azhur, Temporary Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Hazaribagh, is allowed leave for one month and fifteen days, under article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the 5th instant, or such subsequent date as he may avail himself of it.

The Lieutenant-Governor accepts the resignation tendered by second Lieutenant John Greig of the Presidency Volunteer Reserve Battalion of his commission.

Mr J H Lea, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Naraingani, Dacca, is allowed leave for one month, under article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the 29th instant.

Mr B B Newbould, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Dacca, is appointed temporarily to have charge of the Naraingani sub-division of that district, during the absence, on leave, of Mr J H Lea, or until further orders.

Mr C G H Allen, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, is appointed to act, until further orders, in the first grade of Joint-Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, and is posted to the Sadar station of the district of Chittagong, on being relieved of his present appointment as Officiating Magistrate and Collector of Noakhali.

The Hon'ble Sir Henry Leland Harrison, Kt., Member of the Board of Revenue, is allowed leave for twenty-one days, under article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the 30th instant.

Mr R C Dutt, Officiating Magistrate and Collector, Burdwan, is allowed leave for one month, under article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the 30th instant.

The following notifications are published from the Assam Gazette:—

Mr J D Anderson, C.S., Deputy Commissioner, Cachar, on return from privilege leave, is appointed to be Deputy Commissioner, Darrang, with effect from the date on which he receives charge of that district from Mr R S Greenshields, C.S.

Mr R S Greenshields, C.S., Officiating Deputy Commissioner, Darrang, on being relieved by Mr J D Anderson, C.S., is appointed to officiate as Deputy Commissioner, Lakhimpur, with effect from the date on which he receives charge of that District from Mr. W. B. Brown, C. S.

With effect from the 11th September 1899, in consequence of the deputation to special duty of Mr R B McCabe, C.S., Deputy Commissioner, fourth, Officiating second grade.—

Mr W Teunon, C.S., Assistant Commissioner, second grade, on privilege leave, and Mr J L Herald, C.S., Assistant Commissioner, second grade, Officiating Deputy Commissioner, third grade, to act as Deputy Commissioner, second grade.

Mr. C. W. E. Pittar, C.S., Assistant Commissioner, third grade, and Officiating Deputy Commissioner, fourth grade, to act as Deputy Commissioner, third grade.

With effect from 12th September 1890, consequent on return to duty of Mr. J. Kennedy, C.S., Deputy Commissioner, second grade, officiating first grade—

Mr. W. Teunon, C.S., Assistant Commissioner, second grade, and Officiating Deputy Commissioner, second grade, to revert to Officiating Deputy Commissioner, third grade.

Mr. J. L. Herrld, C.S., Assistant Commissioner, second grade, and Officiating Deputy Commissioner, second grade, to revert to Assistant Commissioner, Officiating first grade.

With effect from the 15th September 1890, the date on which he took charge of the office of the Deputy Commissioner, Lakhimpur, in consequence of the absence on deputation of Mr R A McCabe—

Mr W B Brown, C.S., Assistant Commissioner, third, Officiating first, grade, to act as Deputy Commissioner, fourth grade.

Babu Suresh Chandra Ghose, Munsif of Moulvi Bazar, in the district of Sylhet, has obtained leave of absence for twelve days, under article 306 (b) of the Civil Service Regulations, in extension of the leave, granted to him in notification No. 3463J, dated the 14th August 1890.

JUDICIAL.—Mr H T Hyde, Barrister-at-Law, Secretary to the Board of Examiners for Pleadership and Mooktearship, is allowed leave without pay from the 27th November 1890 till the 31st January 1891.

Mr William C Graham, Barrister-at-Law, is appointed to act as Secretary to the Board of examiners for Pleadership and Mooktearship, during the absence, on leave, of Mr H T Hyde, or until further orders.

HOW TO AVOID DYSENTERY.—In August above all other periods of the yeava are to be obsered numerous cases of derangements of the Stomach, Entrails, and frequently of Dysentery. When these maladies appear, employ at once Belloc's Charcoal; it is the surest and most rapid cure, but prevention is better than cure; and we are rendering a veritable service to our readers in advising them to abstain as much as possible from indulgence in fermented drinks and unripe fruit, and recommending them to quench their thirst with tar water prepared from "Guyot's Tar Solution" (Goudron de Guyot). Guyot's preparation is within reach of all purses, for one bottle suffices to make twelve quarts of purified tar water.

SIR ROBERT CHARLES DALLAS, Bart., writes:—Paris, 16, rue Montaigne, July 12, 1860. Dear doctor Laville,—It has been represented to me that my testimony in favor of your mode of treating gouty and rheumatic affections with Doctor Laville's Liqueur and Pills may induce persons afflicted with such disorders to make a trial of the medicines remedial and preventive, which in my own case, have produced the most beneficial results. Should any sufferer from these painful maladies do me the favour of writing to me on the subject, I shall have great pleasure in answering his enquiries, and in explaining, as far as I am able, the system which in conformity with the instructions in your valuable Treatise, I have effectually pursued.—Your faithful and obliged servant, ROBERT CHARLES DALLAS, Bart.

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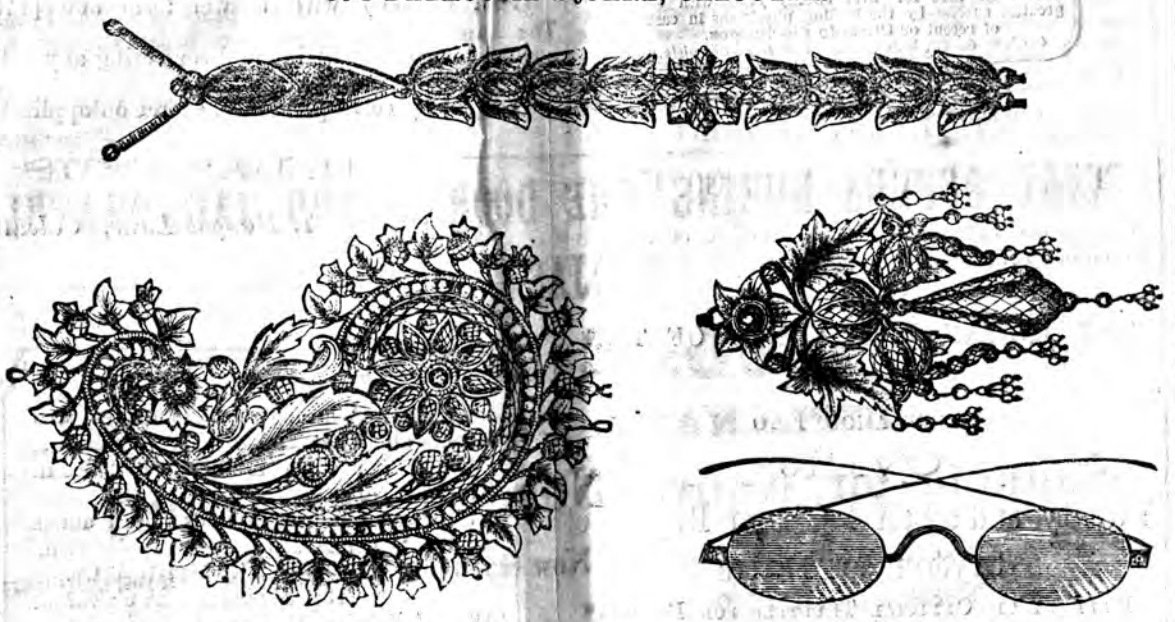

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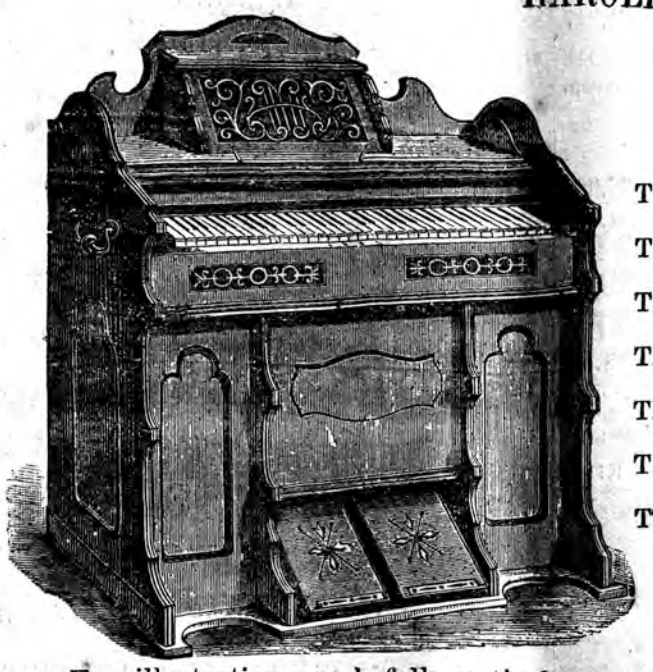

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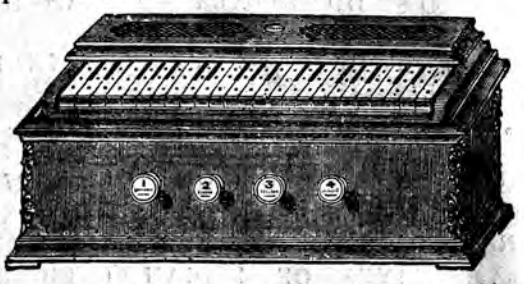

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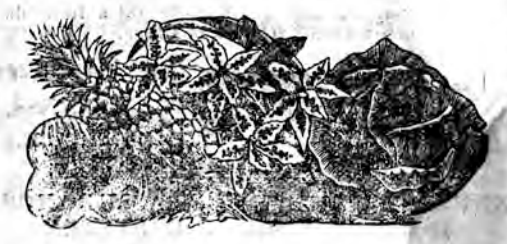

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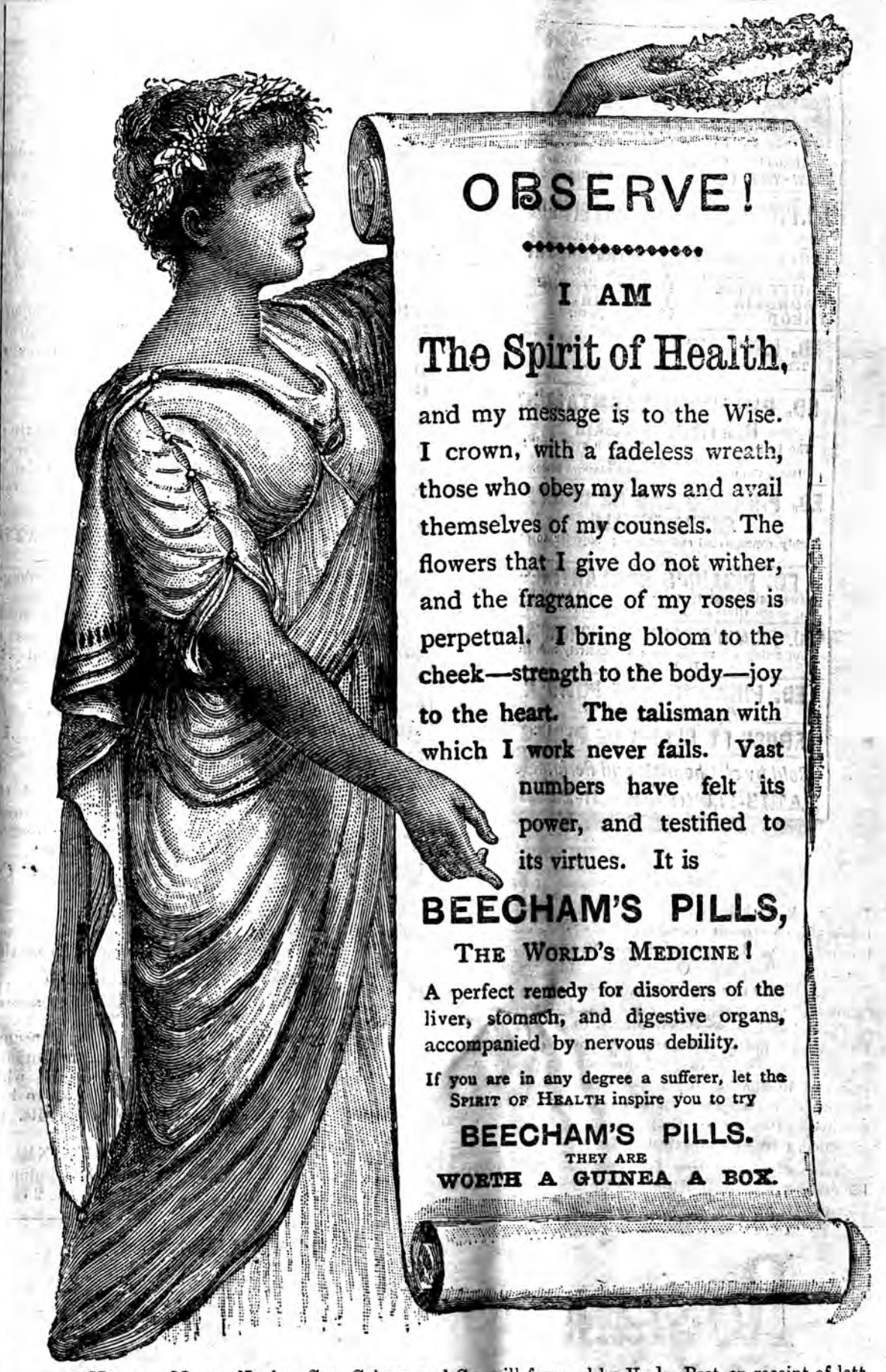
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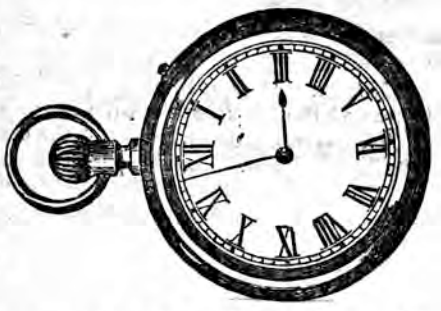

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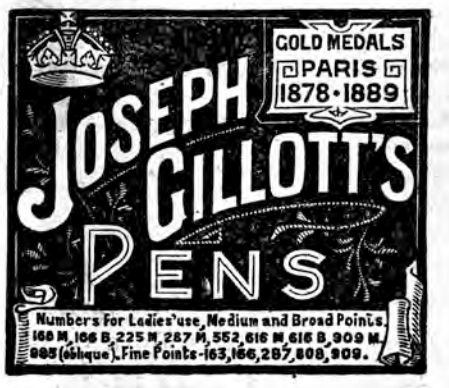
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